

Blenheim Palace and Oxfordshire Villages Tour

Welcome to the Beautiful Villages of Oxfordshire

DURATION - 8 HOURS

Oxford is a lively cultural centre established around a safe crossing of the river Thames ('Oxen-ford') by the 10th century, with its world-renowned university evolving during the 11th century, becoming an increasingly important centre of learning for theology, law, mathematics and philosophy.

Many of the university's colleges have fine gardens and neat quadrangles, while some have quite extensive grounds. Christ Church Meadow has riverside walks, while Port Meadow, an ancient common to the north west of the city, is an extensive open space close to the city. The Botanic Gardens opposite Magdalen College, were founded in 1621 and present an opportunity for quiet enjoyment just off the main thoroughfare.



Oxford straddles two rivers and is served by the Oxford canal. The river Thames (known as the Isis in Oxford) flows along the west side of the city. The river Cherwell flows down the east side through meadows with pleasant footpaths. The Oxford Canal runs north-south providing opportunities for angling, boating and walking along the towpath. Traditionally flat bottomed punts are used on the river, and rowing is a well-known university sport with inter-collegiate events in February and May. Steamers ply for hire between Oxford and Abingdon during the summer and shorter trips are also available.

Blenheim Palace, near Oxford, stands in a romantic park created by the famous landscape gardener 'Capability' Brown. It was presented by the English nation to John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, in recognition of his victory in 1704 over French and Bavarian troops. Built between 1705 and 1722 and characterized by an eclectic style and a return to national roots, it is a perfect example of an 18th-century princely dwelling.

Map of the Blenheim Palace and Oxfordshire Tour



More Tours of the Cotswolds

Half-Day Introduction to the Cotswold's Tour (Affordable)

Chance to visit and photograph the prettiest villages that the Cotswold's has to offer. Discover the villages of honey coloured stone, manor houses, charming churches, dry-stone walls and real country pubs.

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Tour Market Towns and Villages of the Cotswolds

The Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty includes the many Medieval towns and villages which were built on wealth from the wool trade. Money was put into the building of churches, large and handsome Cotswold stone "wool churches".

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Tour Stratford upon Avon and Shakespeare's Country

One of the most famous towns in the country, Stratford plays host to Shakespeare's Birthplace, the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and is surrounded by spectacular sights such as Warwick Castle, Ragley Hall and Charlecote Park.

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ABOUT US



The Gladwin family have farmed in the Cotswolds for many generations and have an unrivalled knowledge of the area, its history and what makes this part of England so very special.

Local knowledge means you're getting an exceptional private tour, a wealth of Cotswold's knowledge, giving you the opportunity to visit places not on the usual tourist trail, as well as the popular destinations.

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